

to free himself from hampering conditions is not to inflict a penalty, but to confer a benefit.

Contemporaneously with Mr. Roosevelt's characteristically vigorous expression of opinion, the Anglican Bishop of Qu'Appelle made in his address to the Synod of that diocese some sound and practical observations on the same theme. In his opinion "the importance of insisting on every child being taught to speak the English language cannot be exaggerated." This is especially true of the Canadian West, where "it is so easy for a foreign community to preserve its identity and language, and for children to grow up in ignorance of British institutions and customs." Bishop Harding's assertion—that without a knowledge of English it is quite possible for foreign children to dwell in our midst and yet continue to regard themselves as owing allegiance to a foreign land and its Government—is quite indisputable, and this is adequate justification for his remark, that it is "nothing less than criminal," in the light of passing events, to be indifferent to this side of their education. In fact, if foreign children leave school without a good working knowledge of English, whatever else may have been done to or for them will be of little use to them in after life. Nor should it be overlooked that, as every teacher of languages knows, the mere process of acquiring the mastery of a new language is in itself a highly cultural training.

#### LANGUAGE AND CITIZENSHIP.

Most countries have only a single language that is recognized as official, but the Dominion of **Canada** has two: English and French. In the United States, and in each State separately, English is the only official language. This accounts for Theodor Roosevelt's recent expression of his opinion that the national Government should establish "night schools for all adult immigrants in which they should be taught the English language," and that those **foreigners** who have not learned it within five years should at the end of that interval, be deported as undesirables. This proposal may seem to drastic, but there is a certain amount of justification for the contention, that every foreigner should be expected to learn English if facilities for doing so are provided for him free of expense. The man who does not know the language of the people among whom he dwells is very much handicapped in his efforts to make a living, not to mention the discharge of those civic duties which are imposed on him by the fact of his citizenship. To constrain him